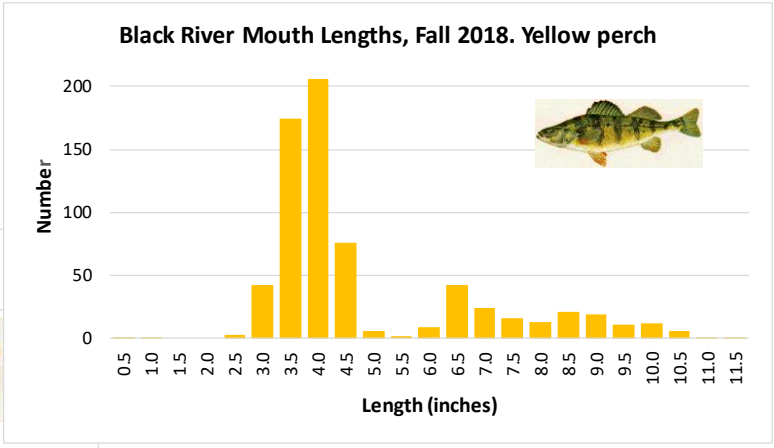
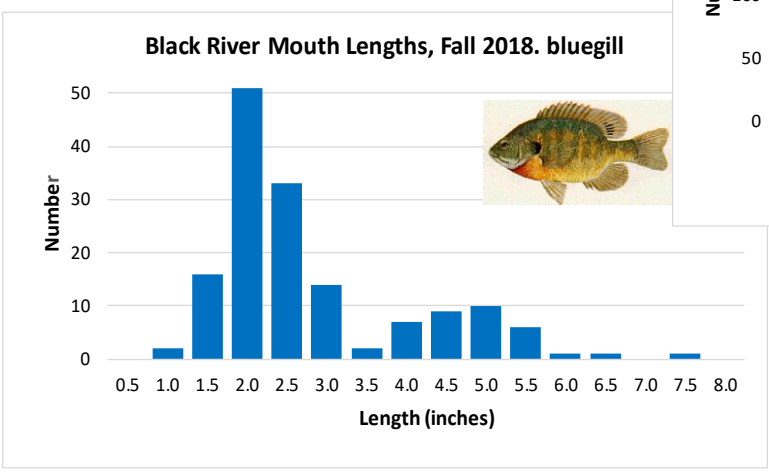
FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET. POOL 7, BLACK RIVER MOUTH.
MISSISSIPPI RIVER GAME FISH.

WATERBODY: MISSISSIPPI R. BLACK RIVER MOUTH
COUNTY: LA CROSSE **YEAR**: 2018

The WDNR surveyed backwaters and sloughs near the mouth of the Black River located in Pool 7 of the Mississippi River in the fall of 2018 using electro fishing equipment to determine the health of the fishery. A total of 2741 fish were collected with 39 species represented. Yellow perch was the most abundant followed by largemouth bass, bluegill and smallmouth bass.

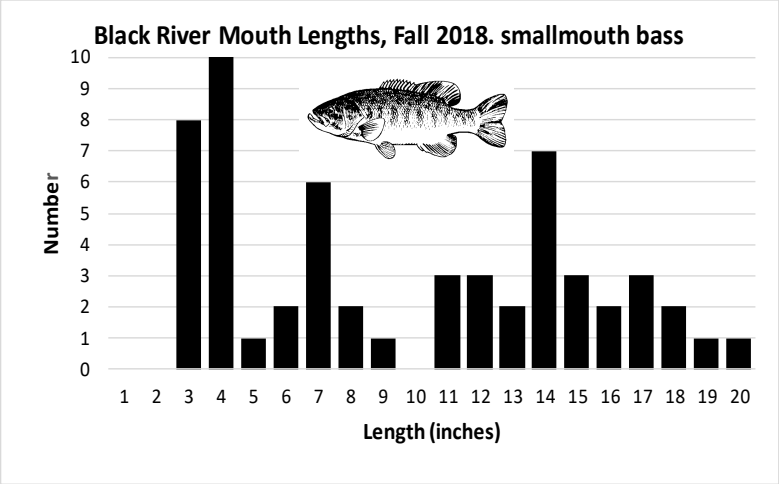
Similar sampling was done in 2014. Since then, average Black R. Mouth yellow perch sizes increased 1.3 inches to 7.8 inches. Bluegill (4.7 inches), largemouth (12.7 inches) and smallmouth (12.2 inches) bass were the same. Compared to other 26 other Mississippi River surveys from pools 4 through 10, Black R. mouth yellow perch were the same as nine and smaller than thirteen other surveys. Largemouth bass were larger than one and smaller than twelve surveys. Bluegill were the same as ten other surveys and smaller than sixteen. Black River Mouth bluegill abundance was lower than seven and the same as eighteen surveys. Largemouth bass was higher than seven and lower than six surveys. Yellow perch abundance was higher than eight other surveys and lower than four. Abundance of all combined game fishes during 2018 (72.1 per hour)





Contact Information: *David Heath - Fisheries Biologist; 3550 Mormon Coulee Rd.; La Crosse, WI 54601; Telephone: 608-785-9993.* *David.heath@Wisconsin.gov*.

and was the same as 19 other surveys and the more than thirteen surveys (about 25.6 per hour).



Compared to other recent Mississippi River surveys, the Black River Mouth area has a relatively good abundance of game fish and has relatively large yellow perch, smallmouth and largemouth bass. Bluegill are relatively small. Reproduction of game fishes appears to be strong. Fish less than one-year-old are more abundant than any other age class.